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The records obtained are arranged in thirty carefully prepared tables, which show the analysis, grouping, co-relation, and distribution of condition, of the statistics. With the exception of the table relating to co-relation, the methods used are mainly to obtain different statistical points of view. The table showing co-relation of defects supply evidence as to the real significance of the defects and their causation. The report says, "Inasmuch as it has been shown by the comparison of groups of schools that the co-relation of the main classes of defects varies as to degree, with the character of the environment, it is advisable to determine the percentage of co-relation of defects upon similar groups of cases under different environment. To some extent this has been done by giving the co-relation of the main classes of defects, and individual defects, as seen in children in day schools and in residential schools. The difference in the numerical value of these co-relations under different environment are in some degree a measure of their defect."

The bearing of this inquiry on the education and care of children is, of course, most vital. It is by such censuses that we arrive at answers to important questions, such as, "What proportion of the population of children require special educational provision?" "What are the effects of higher education, technical education, town life, crowded living, deficient light, cottage residence, drainage, and water supply?" Causation and cure can best be studied in the light of similar investigation and thus the defection made normal.

As a result of the investigation two chapters of recommendations and suggestions are offered.

HARRY D. HUNT.

PHYSICAL AND MENTAL CONDITION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN
IN SWITZERLAND.

Résultats du dénombrement des enfants faibles d'esprit en âge de fréquenter l'école, y compris ceux qui sont atteints d'infirmités physiques ou qui sont négligés et moralement abandonnés, enquête qui a eu lieu en Suisse au mois de mars, 1897. Part I. Berne, 1897. Pp. xxx, 91.

Educational societies in Switzerland have for some time been interested in securing a thorough investigation in regard to the num-

ber of school children who are in any way deficient and thus unable to keep up with their comrades in their studies. A petition was therefore made in November, 1896, to the Federal Interior Department of Switzerland asking for a statistical investigation. This was readily acceded to by the department, and an inquiry was ordered to be taken in March, 1897. It was determined (1) that this inquiry should be a census of children either mentally defective or afflicted with any physical infirmity which kept them from doing the ordinary work of the primary schools ; (2) that only children of school age should be included ; (3) that the inquiry should contain only questions which could be easily answered by the educational or institutional authorities, not necessitating medical experts ; (4) that certain children should be the object of special subsequent examination by experts under the authority of the cantons ; (5) that idiots, crétins, deaf mutes, the blind, epileptics, etc., who, because of these deformities, would be excluded from the primary schools, should be enumerated ; (6) that opportunity should be taken to determine the number of children neglected or morally abandoned who had not been placed in an educational institution or in an honest family, and of those who are already the object of public or private charity and care. The *questionnaire* was formulated as follows : —

1. Name and surname of the child.
2. Date of birth of the child, — day, month, year ; legitimate, illegitimate.
3. Christian name of the father or of the mother.
4. Occupation of the father or of the mother.
5. Place of residence ; place of origin.
6. Is the child with its parents ?
7. Or is it placed in a *pension* ?
8. Or is it placed in an institution ?
 - A. Does the child attend a primary school, public or private ? In this case —
9. Name of the school.
10. Grade of the class.
11. Cannot follow the instruction given in the class.
 - (a) Because, while possessing a normal intelligence, it suffers from a defect of hearing, or of sight, or of some other physical infirmity.
 - (b) Because, while more or less susceptible to mental development, suffers from mental deficiency in a slight or more serious degree.
12. Is it urgent to placé the child in a special class or in a special institution ?

13. Is there already a special class formed for children intellectually deficient ?

14. Is the child neglected or morally abandoned ?

B. Has the child yet been admitted to school, or does it not attend for other reasons ? In this case —

15. Does he not attend school for one of the reasons indicated under A 11 (a, b), and for which of these reasons ?

16. Or has he not been admitted to school because he suffers from some other infirmity, such as mental deficiency in a very marked degree, as imbecility, idiocy, cretinism; epilepsy, mutism, or deafness; blindness or partial blindness, or for some other infirmity ?

Careful instructions were given in order to secure accuracy of returns. The result of the inquiry shows that there were 13,155 children of school age who fell within the limits of the inquiry. These are classified as follows : —

1. Mentally defective in a slight degree . .	5,052, or 39 per cent.
2. Defective in a more pronounced degree . .	2,615, or 20 “
3. Afflicted with a physical infirmity only . .	1,848, or 14 “
4. Idiots, mutes, blind, etc.	2,405, or 18 “
5. Morally abandoned only	1,236, or 9 “
Total	13,155, or 100 “

By a comparison with a school census on December 31, 1895, which enumerated 463,548 children in the primary schools, it is calculated that in every 1000 children of this population there were 16.5 afflicted with mental deficiency in a degree more or less apparent. The census of population in 1888 showed 490,252 children of the ages from 7 to 14 years, which would give a proportion of 15.6 per thousand children in the school age. Ninety-six per cent of the children frequent the primary schools or are placed in educational institutions; four per cent are instructed by their parents or in families where they are placed.

Of the 7667 children mentally defective in some degree, but regarded as capable of mental development, there are 567 who receive instruction in a special class; 411 who are placed in special institutions provided for children intellectually deficient; 104 who are in an orphanage or similar institution and do not need special treatment; 5585 for whom individual treatment of a special class or in a special institution is desirable; 534 for whom, although mentally defective, a special treatment is not judged necessary; 466 for whom the question of disposal is left undecided; total, 7667.

Careful analyses are made to show the degree of coincidence of physical and mental infirmity. It is seen that there are 929 children mentally deficient who are troubled with defective hearing. There are 276 mentally defective who are troubled with infirmities of sight. The defects of the organs of speech accompany also mental deficiency in a very great number. Here a total of 445 is found. Of these it is recommended that 241 should be placed in a special class, and 138 in a special institution. One hundred and twenty-two of those mentally deficient are found afflicted with nervous troubles, and of these 46 are recommended for a special class, and 57 for a special institution. Two hundred and eighty-one of the others mentally deficient are also troubled with other physical diseases, of whom 146 should be placed in a special class and 76 in a special institution.

A bibliography is given on page xxx of some fifteen titles dealing with this special subject. A second part will be subsequently published.

D. R. D.

FAMILY FOOD BUDGETS.

In the *Fourth Annual Report of the Kingsley House Association* in Pittsburgh, Pa. (1897), an account is given of a food investigation. "Two families, typical of the more prosperous workingmen's families, consented to a daily inspection of their food. The first family consisted of six members, all adults, the mother, of Irish birth, seventy years old, and two daughters and three sons, all unmarried and between the ages of twenty-eight and forty. One daughter is the housekeeper, the other cleans cars for \$1.00 a day. One son is on the street-cleaning force, earning \$1.50 a day. The other sons, both out of work at the time of the investigation, are said to be skilled workmen, one being a molder of iron, the other a glass-blower. The working son and daughter put all their earnings into the family fund. Their wages amounted to \$51.00 during the time in question, as both lost several days' work. For three weeks the family had a boarder who paid \$13.00, making the family income \$64. The house is comfortable and quite large, renting for \$18.00 a month, but they sub-let a portion for \$7.00, keeping three rooms and a large attic divided into two rooms. Provisions are bought by